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Preface

The Ninth Conference of the International Linear Algebra Society, Haifa, Israel 2001

This special issue contains selected papers presented at the Ninth Conference of the International Linear Algebra Society, which took place at the Technion in Haifa, Israel on 25–29 June 2001. The co-chairs of the organizing committee were Moshe Goldberg, Daniel Hershkowitz, and Raphael Loewy. Financial and administrative support were provided by the Institute of Advanced Studies in Mathematics of the Technion.

There were 109 registered participants from 25 countries. There were two special lectures given at the conference. Steve Kirkland (Regina, Canada) gave the Olga Taussky-John Todd Lecture on “Extremizing algebraic properties of tournament matrices.” Lloyd Trefethen (Oxford, UK) gave the LAA Lecture on “Stability of Gaussian Elimination.” In addition, Mr. Carl Alpert, the historian of the Technion, gave the banquet talk.

There was a broad range of topics covered in both the invited and contributed talks. Indication of this breadth is evident in the 17 refereed papers in this volume.

It is unfortunate that Professor Binyamin Schwarz, who is considered to be the founder of the matrix theory group at the Technion, could not attend the meeting, due to health problems. He passed away shortly after the conference, on August 10, 2001. A special article on Professor Schwarz appeared in LAA Volume 120 (1989), the special issue devoted to the Fourth Haifa Matrix Theory Conference.

Avi Berman
Ludwig Elsner
Moshe Goldberg
Raphael Loewy